

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A data exchange system over a data transfer network between a receiver station and a data server with conditional access, in which data exchanges over the network are managed and authorized by a control server, said control server comprising:

a microcomputer programmed to perform:

accessing ~~means for access to~~ at least two different user management servers;

automatically ~~automatic means~~ forming a catalog of payment instruments, the payment instruments being usable and accessible by a user of said receiver station, the user selecting one of the payment instruments, each of the payment instruments being associated with a respective user management server each respective user management server providing credit or billing data associated with the respective payment instrument; wherein said automatically forming a catalog of usable payment instruments comprises:

acquiring data relating to at least one of the nature and data exchange capabilities of the receiver station; and

establishing the catalog of usable payment instruments from a predetermined list of payment instruments authorized for access to said conditional access data and according to said acquired data relating to the receiver station;

~~—— means for~~ exchanging information with the user management server associated with the selected payment instrument to receive the credit or billing data associated with the selected payment instrument;

~~—— automatic means for~~ determining parameters for control of the data exchanges over said network between said receiver station and said data server with conditional access according corresponding to the selected payment instrument and the corresponding credit or billing data; and

exchanging ~~—— automatic means of data exchange control~~ over said network (2) for controlling access to data of said data server according to the parameters thus determined.

2. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ~~means~~ forming a catalog of usable payment instruments ~~comprising~~ comprises:

~~—— a~~ a storage unit ~~means~~ comprising a the predetermined list of payment instruments authorized for access to said conditional access data;

~~—— data acquisition means relating to a constitution and operation of the system and of elements comprising the receiver station; and~~

~~—— means of establishment of the catalog of at least two usable payment instruments from at least a list of authorized instruments and of acquired data relating to the system.~~

3. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said ~~acquisition means comprise~~comprises ~~means of~~ analysis of the receiver station, for delivering:

~~—— data relating to a nature of the receiver station;~~
and/or

~~—— data relating to exchange capabilities of the receiver station.~~

4. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said ~~acquisition means comprise means of~~acquiring
comprises connection between the receiver station and the network, for delivering:

~~—— data relating to the means of connection between the receiver station and the network; and/or~~

~~—— data relating to a time of the data exchanges.~~

5. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said control server is associated with ~~means of~~ remote interrogation of said ~~means of~~ connection to obtain said data.

6. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said automatically ~~automatic means for~~ determining parameters for control of the data exchanges ~~are~~ is connected to ~~means of storing data~~ a storage unit concerning conditions of access to said data, with conditional access, and ~~to means of storing~~ storing exchange authorization data associated with the selected payment instrument to establish said exchange control parameters.

7. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said automatically ~~automatic means for~~ determining parameters for control of the data exchanges is also connected to ~~means of supervision~~ supervisor system of the operation of the receiver station, receiving from said ~~means of supervision~~ supervisor system of the operation of the receiver station, data relating to the state of activity and/or to the operation of said receiver station.

8. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said ~~means of supervision are~~ supervisor system is formed by software ~~means~~ initially stored in the system and transmitted to said receiver station on which the software ~~means~~ reside throughout the data exchanges.

9. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said exchange authorization data associated with the selected payment instrument correspond to one of the elements in the group consisting:

- of temporal credit data;
- of monetary credit data;
- of fixed charge credit data;
- of data volume credit data; and
- of billing data.

10. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:

a user management server associated with the selected payment instrument comprising at least one database containing said exchange authorization data associated with the payment instruments.

11. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said user management server is a server of a provider of access to said data transfer network, said user management server connecting said receiver station to said network.

12. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said user management server is a server controlling a physical ~~means of~~ connection of the receiver station to the data transfer network.

13. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 10, further comprises:

~~means of~~ determining a user identifier associated with the payment instruments identifying by said user management server a corresponding user account.

14. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein ~~said means of~~ determining said user identifier ~~are~~ automatic means of identification is performed by an automatic identification unit of the receiver station.

15. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said ~~means of determining said user identifier are~~ ~~means of manually inputting~~ receives manual input of an identifier.

16. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:

~~means for~~ debiting said exchange authorization data, associated by user identifiers (12) to a used said payment instrument, for debiting said authorization data according to the data exchanges.

17. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 16, wherein said debiting ~~means comprise~~ comprises a telephone debiting server connected to another network of a telephone type, said server being accessible by said control server, through a programmable call controller and the user management server.

18. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said data exchange control ~~means are for~~ being interposed between said data server and said receiver station in order directly to control all the data exchanges between said data server and said receiver station.

19. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said data exchange control ~~means are~~ is interrogated periodically by said receiver station in order to transmit to said data exchange control ~~means~~ or not an authorization for access to the data of said data server.

20. (currently amended) A system for controlling the exchange of data between entities on a network, the system comprising:

a receiver station for the viewing content of instruments stored on a network;

a data server, the data server containing instruments to be retrieved for viewing;

at least two separate management servers for providing credit or billing data associated with a corresponding payment instrument; and

a control server for controlling the exchange between the receiver station and the data server via a catalogue of usable payment instruments, each of the usable payment instruments being associated with a respective management server, and being usable and accessible by the user of the receiver station,

the control server programmed to perform:

data acquisition for acquiring data relating to at least one of the nature and data exchange capabilities of the receiver station; and

establishing the catalog of usable payment instruments from a predetermined list of payment instruments authorized for access to said conditional access data and according to said acquired data relating to the receiver station;

the control server determining a data exchange between the receiver station and the data server for controlling access to the conditional access data of the data server based on exchange control parameters determined from the credit or billing data retrieved from the management server corresponding to a selected payment instrument,

wherein the selected payment instrument is selected by the user of the receiver station from the catalog of usable payment instruments.